

say how the standard of requirements shall be fixed. Let us not worry about the matter unduly; let us wait and see what needs must be done when the point has been finally decided.

At the coming session of the legislature, a bill appropriating sufficient money for the establishment

TUBERCULOSIS SANATORIUM.

of a State Sanatorium for the Treatment of Curable Cases of Tuberculosis, is to be introduced. Our readers will doubtless recall that, under the auspices of the California Club, of San Francisco, and with the endorsement of the Committee on Tuberculosis of the State Society, a similar measure was passed by the legislature in 1905, but was vetoed by the Governor. We have not seen a copy of the bill it is intended to introduce at the coming session, but it is probably similar to the one of two years ago. It is in every way to be commended. To physicians, it seems hardly necessary to call attention to the great economic value of proper care and treatment of those so unfortunate as to be the victims of this disease. Statistics gathered by our German confreres show that, if taken in the early stages, and if these hopeful victims are subjected to the outdoor sanatorium treatment, only very few succumb to the disease. In Germany, we understand, the life insurance companies have recognized the truth of these facts and have established proper sanatoria for the treatment of those of their insured who may become tuberculous, finding it cheaper to properly care for them and cure them, than to pay death benefits. And surely, if any State needs such an institution it is California, whose chiefest city enjoys the proud distinction of having the highest death rate from tuberculosis of any in the land. Let us by all means do everything in our power to aid the California Club in its efforts to secure the establishment of a State Sanatorium.

It is indeed difficult to arrive at a satisfactory determination of the editorial and business attitude of this peculiar medical publication, *American Medicine*. It was

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founded with the ostensible purpose of fighting nostrum abuses and freeing a trammelled and chained profession. Yet its advertising pages became so open to criticism, and the criticism was so marked and pronounced, that something had to be done. About a year ago it was stated that it could not afford to continue as a weekly publication and refuse some of the questionable advertising from which it derived a goodly portion of its income. At a meeting of stockholders, it was decided to "be decent," to throw out this money with the scarlet tint, and to make the publication a monthly, with clean advertising pages. The great mass of the progressive element in the profession, many of them stockholders in *American Medicine*, have become keenly alive to the very grave conditions existing in the profitable business of supplying sanguine physicians with cheap (?) remedies of unknown or worthless composition. This much-to-be-desired awakening has

come through the inestimable services of the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry of the A. M. A. The reports of this Council, as published in the *Journal A. M. A.* from time to time, have furnished an object lesson of the fact that it was high time such an energetic cleaning up was begun. Naturally, the questionable interests being injured by this truth-telling would like redress and would in turn try to attack or to injure the Association and especially its Council. These attacks have been many and some of them have been noted in our pages. We did not, however, expect ever to see *American Medicine* organized to fight the enemies of true medicine, lining up with the enemy, taking its place with the defenders of nostrums, and casting nasty insinuations against the Association, its *Journal* and its Council. This is indeed a bitter pill to swallow. And it is not enough that we are given this unpleasant dose to take; there is yet a worse. Casual inspection of the advertising pages of the very number of *American Medicine* in which the *Journal of the A. M. A.* is referred to as "yellow" and taken to task for printing the illuminating reports of the Council, shows that the wishes of the stockholders have been ignored. If there is any difference in the character of the advertising formerly condemned by the stockholders and that in the issue for October, 1906, it is not apparent. Here we find Gray's tonic; Labordine; Viburnum compound; vapo-cresolene; anasarcine (no longer advertised as "a cure for dropsy," however); antiphlogistine; papayans Bell (this is apparently the same concern that formerly put out an acetanilide mixture under the false claim that it was a definite chemical under the name salacetine, made into tablets called "sal-codeia, Bell"); Tyree's powder (recently shown by the Council to have been travelling under a disguised formula—to put it mildly); resinol (widely advertised to the general public); and last, but not least, our old friend "California fig syrup," which to the laity is held out as a preparation of figs, and to medical men as a preparation of senna.

Other journals have attacked the Association, its *Journal* and the Council on Pharmacy; other journals will continue to do so, and in

OTHER PLANS.

other ways. Be assured that the interests opposing this present movement to try and secure simple honesty in the making and marketing of remedies intended for physicians' use, are very numerous and very rich and, moreover, are in the habit of doing their work in "ways that are dark"; indeed, they naturally shun the light. For the first time in the history of this country, a considerable number of physicians have gotten together in the formation of medical societies and in supporting the American Medical Association. For the first time in our history it is possible for any considerable number of us to know what is being done and to participate in any particular kind of work or undertaking. So long as that condition remains, so long as the A. M. A. and our component societies remain strong and active, the members taking an intelligent in-